UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

Y.A., A MINOR CHILD BY
NEXT FRIEND, IBRAHIM
ALZANDANI, W.A., A MINOR
CHILD BY NEXT FRIEND,
NADHEM ALNAJAR, AND A.M.,
A MINOR CHILD BY NEXT
FRIEND, ABRAHAM MUZIB,
Personally and on behalf of all
similarly situated persons,

Plaintiffs,

v.

HAMTRAMCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS, WAYNE COUNTY REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY, AND MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,

Defendants.

No.: 2:23-cv-12817-DML-DRG

HON. DAVID M. LAWSON

MAG. DAVID R. GRAND

DEFENDANT MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S NOTICE OF APPEAL

Kassem M. Dakhlallah (P70842) Hammoud, Dakhlallah & Associates, PLLC Attorney for Plaintiffs 6050 Greenfield Rd., Ste. 201 Dearborn, MI 48126 (313) 551-3038 kd@hdalawgroup.com

Jennifer L. McManus (P65976) Fagan McManus, P.C. Attorney for Plaintiffs 25892 Woodward Avenue Royal Oak, MI 48067-0910 (248) 542-6300 jmcmanus@faganlawpc.com Brandon S. Corcoran (P85673)
Miller Johnson
Attorney for Defendant Wayne
County Regional Educational
Service Agency
500 Woodward #2800
Detroit, MI 48226
(313) 672-6946
corcoranb@millerjohnson.com

Robert A. Dietzel (P67567)
Erin H. Walz (P55484)
Kelly S. Bowman (P87014)
Thrun Law Firm, P.C.
Attorneys for Defendant
Hamtramck Public Schools
2900 West Road, Ste. 400
P.O. Box 2575
East Lansing, MI 48826-2575
(517) 484-8000
rdietzel@thrunlaw.com
ewalz@thrunlaw.com
kbowman@thrunlaw.com

Ticara D. Hendley (P81166)
Neil A. Giovanatti (P82305)
Assistant Attorneys General
Attorneys for Defendant Michigan
Department of Education
Health, Education & Family
Services Division
P.O. Box 30758
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 335-7603
hendleyt1@michigan.gov
giovanattin@michigan.gov

Kevin T. Sutton (P65364)
Miller Johnson
Attorney for Defendant Wayne
County Regional Educational
Service Agency
I409 E. Jefferson, Fifth Floor
Detroit, MI 48226
(248) 258-2850
suttonk@millerjohnson.com

DEFENDANT MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S NOTICE OF APPEAL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Defendant Michigan Department of Education (MDE) hereby appeals to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit from the Order denying MDE's motion to dismiss (ECF No. 67), entered in this action on September 24, 2024. On December 13, 2024, MDE filed a Petition for Permission to Appeal

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1292(b). On July 3, 2025, the Sixth Circuit Court granted the petition to appeal. (See Exhibit A, July 3, 2025 Order, Document: 14; Exhibit B, July 3, 2025 Judgment.) The Sixth Circuit ordered that the issues on appeal pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1292(b) are: (1) whether the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act's (IDEA) exhaustion requirement contains a futility exception; and (2) whether a State Education Agency may be liable under the IDEA, and if so under what circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Neil A. Giovanatti

Neil A. Giovanatti (P82305)
Ticara D. Hendley (P81166)
Assistant Attorneys General
Attorneys for Defendant
Michigan Department of
Education
Health, Education & Family
Services Division
P.O. Box 30758
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 335-7603
giovanattin@michigan.gov
hendleyt1@michigan.gov

Dated: July 15, 2025

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, on July 15, 2025, I electronically filed

Defendant Michigan Department of Educations' Notice of

Appeal with the Clerk of the Court using the ECF system which will send notification of such to all represented parties.

/s/ Neil A. Giovanatti

Neil A. Giovanatti (P82305)
Ticara D. Hendley (P81166)
Assistant Attorneys General
Attorneys for Defendant
Michigan Department of
Education
Health, Education & Family
Services Division
P.O. Box 30758
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 335-7603
giovanattin@michigan.gov
hendleyt1@michigan.gov